

A LITTLE STORM IN A TEACUP.

(From the New Orleans Picayune.)

Characters: Guy Fenton, engaged to Miss Grey. Mrs. Grey, (her mother).

Scene: Inside a carriage driving home from a dance.

Time: 2.30 a. m.

Miss Grey sits opposite Fenton, with a bouquet of flowers on her knee.

Mrs. Grey leans back in the corner asleep.

Guy—Delightful, was it not? Good floor, excellent supper and any number of pretty girls.

Ethel—I didn't enjoy it.

Guy, (sarcastically,)—Indeed! Not even while dancing with Captain Ell? Appearances are sometimes deceptive.

Ethel—I was bored more than you can guess.

Guy—And yet you seem to have found his conversation sufficiently engrossing to keep him by your side most of the evening.

Ethel (flushing,)—I never wish to see or speak of Captain Ell again.

Guy (wildly,)—Even supposing Captain Ell proved unsatisfactory, you didn't appear to be in want of partners.

Ethel, (dolefully,)—The man I wished to dance with forgot to ask me, and (passionately) surely one has a right to expect one's fiancé to claim at least one dance. Captain Ell would not believe I was engaged to you; that was why.

Guy, (interrupting savagely,)—Your engagement sits so very lightly on you, that I am not at all surprised. You insisted on carrying another man's flowers; I, therefore, gave you the opportunity of enjoying his society as well as his gift.

(The flowers fall to the ground and Fenton handing them to Miss Grey, says, ironically):

"I hope they are not hurt, as you prize them so highly."

Ethel (defiantly,)—I didn't value them. You can throw them out of the window if you wish.

Guy (sarcastically,)—Not for the world. You must keep them as a souvenir of happy hours spent.

Ethel, (tearfully,)—Oh, won't you understand that I only insisted on carrying them because they matched this gown you are so fond of.

(Tableau.)

BERTIE NEWGRASS.

HE NEEDED NO MORE REWARD.

Caroline Earle White, the president of the Women's Pennsylvania Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, distributes three costly medals every year to the three men who have done the kindest, bravest deeds in animals' behalf during the twelve-month.

Mrs. White makes a brief address at these distributions, and what she says is always interesting. At a recent distribution she told a story.

"There is a certain society for the prevention of cruelty to animals in France," she said. "Men visit it each year to apply for the medal it gives annually. Its president is a joker.

"One day a peasant came to this association and laid claim to the medal.

"What have you done to deserve it?" asked the president.

"I have saved a wolf's life, sir," said the peasant.

"What had the wolf been doing?"

"It had killed my wife."

"Then," said the president, "you need no medal, for you are already sufficiently rewarded."—New York Tribune.

AIRY PERCH.

A little bird set on a telegraph wire, And said to his mates, "I declare, If wireless telegraphy comes into vogue,

We'll all have to sit on the air."

—St. Nicholas.

OLD VARIETY.

"Let me sell you a letter-opener," said the clerk in the novelty store.

"Have one home," responded the little man.

"Indeed! What kind is it?"

"My wife."—Chicago News.

WASHINGTON'S MONUMENT TO GRANT.

Washington is a city of monuments and statues, some of them artistic and noble, some of them pretentious and ineffective. A notable addition to the collection will be the Grant memorial, for which Congress has appropriated a quarter of a million dollars, and for which Henry Merwin Shady has completed the preliminary designs.

The central figure is a mounted statue of the great soldier. Washington runs to equestrian statues. It has more of them, we believe, than any other city in the world. This is not commonly regarded as a land in which the favorite popular hero is "the man on horseback," but some of our earlier sculptors seem to have delighted in posing their subjects on prancing steeds. A typical instance is the Jackson monument, representing the militant Tennesseean balanced on a horse whose uplifted hoofs perennially paw the breezes of Lafayette square. When Thackeray, sight-seeing in Washington, was asked to admire this portentous production, he ventured to inquire: "But where are the rockers?"

It could hardly be doubted, however, that the soldier who finished the Civil war should be portrayed on horseback, and Mr. Shady's design is in excellent taste, besides being a very faithful and characteristic portrait of Grant. It was accepted by the commission in charge of the work after a most exacting competition had been held, with more than twenty of the leading American sculptors as contestants. Mr. Shady's thoroughly kelleared success was made doubly remarkable by the fact that he is a very young man, self-taught in his art, and employed in a match factory until about three years ago. He is a son of the well-known New York physician, Dr. George F. Shady—who, by a curious coincidence, was General Grant's doctor and close personal friend.

A REFORM MOVEMENT AND ITS RESULTS.

(From the New York Times.)

Once upon a time a noble woman, young and beautiful, married a man to reform him. He understood that it was going to be done, and, knowing that he needed reform, accepted the program with great enthusiasm. But at the end of six months a friend of the bride met her and asked her how she was getting along. She sighed.

"I regret to say," she replied, "that the course of events has not quite justified my expectations. In New York it is very hard to keep a man from taking a drink, especially on Sunday. But reform takes time. I am still hopeful."

At that end of another six months, her friend again met her and asked her how she was getting along. Again she sighed.

"Draw poker and horseracing," she said, "present problems which we reformers have not yet been able to solve. However, I am proud to say that I have succeeded in making my husband quite uncomfortable. If he had to choose over again I believe he would reject the reform program by a majority of one. This shows that I have made an impression on him. Give me time. But it is weary work. If there were another election, so to speak, I do not know that I should care to be a candidate."

Another six months passed away. Again her friend met her.

"How is your husband?" she asked.

"Oh, he's quite cheerful and happy."

"Indeed! Reformed?"

"No. Gone to Dakota. He has made up his mind that he wants a change of administration."

WILLIAM E. McKENNA.

WHY HE REJOICED.

Farmer Barnes—Yes; poor Josh Medders wuz run over by a auto, but he seems happy.

Farmer Hedges—Does the doctor say he can recover?

Farmer Barnes—No; but the lawyer does.—Puck.

The Grand Fountain of the United Order of True Reformers

Is the leading Colored Fraternal Society of the United States. It was organized January, 1881, by William W. Browne, and chartered in April, 1883, under the laws of the State of Virginia, with headquarters at Richmond, Va. Its membership is both male and female, and consists of all persons of good health from 14 to 60 years of age. Its membership of 60,000 is divided into Fountains and Circles. It pays sick benefits from \$1.50 to \$2.50 per week, and pays death benefits from \$24.56 to \$1000.

BENEFITS PAID—Total benefits paid to date: Sick dues, \$1,500,000; death benefits, \$714,378.75.

SENIOR FOUNTAINS—A Fountain may be organized consisting of 20 or more persons not over 50 years of age paying a joining fee of from \$4.60 to \$5.10 each. The monthly dues are not less than 35 cents in rural districts and not less than 50 cents per month in towns and cities, and a semi-annual tax of 40 cents paid in January and July of each year. Sick benefits paid are from \$1.50 to \$2.50 per week, while death benefits range from \$75 to \$125. A Fountain may be organized in any locality on application to Rev. W. L. Taylor, G. W. Master, or to any of his authorized deputies.

ROSEBUDS—For the proper training of the young and their development in thrift, industry and brotherly love, there has been formed a Children's Department known as the Rosebuds. Twenty or more children not less than three nor more than fourteen years of age may form a Rosebud, upon the payment of \$1 each. This department, like the Senior Fountain, pays sick benefits from \$1 to twenty-five cents per week, and death benefits from \$24.50 to \$37. The monthly dues are fifteen cents per month.

CLASSES—Persons desiring to leave their beneficiaries at death a larger amount than is paid from Fountain Department, take out policies in one or more of the Classes of the Mutual Benefit Degree. The members of this degree are divided into Circles, and pay joining fees and dues according to the following tables:

Class "B"						Class "E"					
Age	Joining fee.	Value of Certificate after one year.	Value of Certificate before one year.	Annual Dues	Quarterly Dues	Age	Joining fee.	Value of Certificate after one year.	Value of Certificate before one year.	Annual Dues	Quarterly Dues
14 to 25	\$2.50	\$200.00	\$100.00	\$4.75	\$1.20	14 to 25	\$5.00	\$500.00	\$250.00	\$9.50	\$2.40
25 to 30	2.75	200.00	100.00	4.75	1.20	25 to 30	5.25	500.00	250.00	9.50	2.40
30 to 35	3.00	200.00	100.00	4.75	1.20	30 to 35	5.50	500.00	250.00	9.50	2.40
35 to 40	3.25	200.00	100.00	5.70	1.43	35 to 40	5.75	500.00	250.00	10.40	2.70
40 to 45	3.50	140.00	70.00	5.79	1.43	40 to 45	6.00	450.00	225.00	10.40	2.70
45 to 50	3.75	115.00	58.00	6.65	1.66	45 to 50	6.25	400.00	200.00	11.40	2.85
50 to 55	4.00	70.00	45.00	6.35	1.66	50 to 55	6.50	350.00	175.00	11.40	2.85
55 to 60	4.25	65.00	33.00	7.60	1.90	55 to 60	6.75	300.00	150.00	11.40	2.85

Class "M"

Age	Joining fee.	Value of Certificate	Annual dues	Quarterly dues
14 to 30	\$11.00	\$1000.00	\$21.90	\$5.25
30 to 35	12.00	1000.00	22.00	5.50
35 to 40	12.00	905.00	23.00	5.75
40 to 45	13.00	800.00	24.00	6.00
45 to 50	13.00	700.00	25.00	6.25

REGALIA—The members of the Fountains and Rosebuds of the organization wear no expensive regalia. The regalia of the organization is simple and its cost will be in the easy reach of all, costing from 10 cents to \$3. The same is made by the organization in what is known as the Regalia Department.

THE SAVINGS BANK—In March, 1888, there was granted by the Legislature of Virginia a charter to the Savings Bank

of the Grand Fountain United Order of True Reformers, capital stock \$100,000. The bank commenced business April 3, 1889, and from that time down to the present has steadily increased in volume of business. It now has a paid up capital stock of \$100,000. From the humble sum of \$1,268.69, deposited the first day the bank opened for business in 1889, the deposits have grown to \$350,058, and the volume of business transacted amounts to \$6,190,141.47. During the financial panic of 1893, the Savings Bank of the Grand Fountain was the only bank in the city of Richmond that did not cease to pay cash on all checks presented, while the majority of other banks were using script and clearing house checks. This bank had its origin in the brain of William W. Browne, an ex-slave of Hammersham, Ga. The banking house is located at 604 North Second Street, Richmond, Va., Rev. W. L. Taylor, President; R. T. Hill, Cashier.

REAL ESTATE DEPARTMENT—The Real Estate Department has charge of all the real property to the amount of \$220,221.65, situated in various States, consisting of 13 magnificent buildings used as halls, 8 dwellings, 1 hotel, 5 stores and three farms. It also has under its control 16 large buildings leased by it. This department is under the management of Lawyer J. C. Robertson, chief of real estate and attorney for the association, office at 608 N. 2nd Street, Richmond, Va.

REFORMERS MERCANTILE AND INDUSTRIAL ASSOCIATION—Was chartered under the laws of the State of Virginia on the 14th day of December, 1899, with principal office in the city of Richmond, Va. The purpose of this association is to conduct stores (wholesale and retail), buy and sell real property, manage and control hotels, manufacturing establishments, and do general business. The association has in operation Hotel Reformer, 900 N. Sixth Street, Richmond, Va. It is a modern up-to-date structure, heated by steam, cold and hot water baths, also electric cars passing the door. This hotel has accommodations for 150 guests. Mr. A. W. Holmes is manager, and Mr. T. W. Taylor is clerk. It has in operation a system of five stores, located as follows: Richmond, Va.; Washington, D. C.; Manchester, Va.; Portsmouth, Va.; and Roanoke, Va. The first of these stores, at Richmond, Va., was opened April 3d, 1900. It employs a force of 18 men, runs three delivery wagons, and during the first year did \$50,000 worth of business. The other stores have been established since, and have been equally as prosperous. The general manager of the system of stores is Mr. B. L. Jordan, headquarters at 608 N. Second Street, Richmond, Va. This Association was formed on the plans and recommendations made by Rev. W. L. Taylor, its President.

THE REFORMER PRINTING DEPARTMENT—Issues a weekly journal, THE REFORMER, which has a circulation of 12,000. This paper is published in the interest of the race, and discusses the leading questions of the day. The subscription price is \$1 per year, or 5c per single copy. The office is equipped with modern up-to-date machinery, run by electricity. It can print anything from a visiting card to a poster 42 by 62 inches. Fine job work of every class and description is made a specialty at lowest prices. Mr. E. W. Brown is editor and business manager, office 608 N. Second Street, Richmond, Va. Correspondence solicited and agents wanted.

OLD FOLKS' HOME—In September, 1893, Rev. William W. Brown recommended the formation and establishment of Old Folks' Homes for the benefit of old and decrepit members of the race. Since that time the valuable farm known as Westham, consisting of 634½ acres, located six miles from Richmond, Va., on the historic "James," has been purchased, at a cost of \$14,400. The Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad runs through the farm, and Westham Station is located on it. Adjoining this farm is Westhampton Park, one of the most pleasant resorts in the South in summer. It is reached in a few minutes from Richmond by the Westhampton Electric Railway and the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway. As this home is for the benefit of the whole race, the co-operation of all charitable friends is prayerfully solicited. All contributions, donations and bequests of every character will be very thankfully received. Mr. T. W. Taylor is chief in charge of the Old Folks' Home, offices at 608 North Second Street, Richmond, Va.

For further information address—

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